

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (amended) A transgenic mouse whose genome comprises a transgene comprising a transcriptional control region SM22 α promoter operably linked to a cDNA encoding a calreticulin (CRT) peptide, said peptide having at least 60% homology to SEQ ID No. 23, wherein said control region comprises a promoter

wherein expression of calreticulin from the SM22 α promoter in the vascular smooth muscle cells of the transgenic mouse results in hemangioma formation.

2. cancelled.

3. (amended) A transgene comprising a transcriptional control region SM22 α promoter operably linked to a cDNA encoding a calreticulin peptide, said peptide having at least 60% homology to SEQ ID No. 23 wherein said control region comprises a SM22 α promoter.

4. (amended) A method for producing a transgenic mouse having symptoms similar to hemangioendothelioma whose genome comprises CRT comprising:

introducing into a fertilized mouse egg a transgene comprising SM22 α promoter a transcriptional control region operably linked to a cDNA encoding CRT a calreticulin (CRT) peptide, said peptide having at least 60% homology to SEQ ID No. 23 wherein said control region comprises a promoter;

transplanting the injected egg in a foster parent female mouse; and selecting a mouse derived from an injected egg whose genome comprises CRTSM22 α promoter operably linked to a cDNA encoding a calreticulin peptide, said peptide having at least 60% homology to SEQ ID No. 23,

wherein expression of calreticulin from the SM22 α promoter in the vascular smooth muscle cells of the transgenic mouse results in hemangioma formation.

5. cancelled.

6. (withdrawn) A method for screening compounds that inhibit vascular tumor formation in a transgenic mouse comprising

providing a transgenic mouse whose genome comprises a transgene comprising a transcriptional control region operably linked to a cDNA encoding

calreticulin (CRT);

allowing CRT to be expressed in said transgenic mouse
administering a compound to said mouse; and
determining whether said compound reduces hemangioma formation.

7. (withdrawn) A compound isolated according to the method of claim 6.

8. (withdrawn) A method of testing the therapeutic activity of a pharmacological agent on Kaposiform hemangioendothelioma comprising administering an effective amount of said pharmacological agent to the mouse of claim 1 and evaluating said agent's effect on hemangioma formation of said mouse.

9. (withdrawn) A compound isolated according to the method of claim 8.

10. (withdrawn) A method of inhibiting hemangioma formation comprising administering an effective amount of a matrix metalloproteinase inhibitor to a patient in need of such treatment.

11. (withdrawn) A method of inhibiting hemangioma comprising administering to an individual in need of such treatment an effective amount of virally-administered small interference RNA (siRNA) corresponding to a portion of CRT mRNA, wherein expression of the siRNA decreases the level of CRT.

12. (new) The transgenic mouse according to claim 1 wherein the CRT peptide is at least 70% homologous to SEQ ID No. 23.

13. (new) The transgenic mouse according to claim 1 wherein the CRT peptide is at least 80% homologous to SEQ ID No. 23.

14. (new) The transgenic mouse according to claim 1 wherein the SM22 α promoter is a DNA sequence corresponding to nucleotides 1 to 1343 of SEQ ID No. 1.

15. (new) The transgenic mouse according to claim 4 wherein the CRT peptide is at least 70% homologous to SEQ ID No. 23.

16. (new) The method according to claim 4 wherein the CRT peptide is at least 80% homologous to SEQ ID No. 23.

17. (new) The method according to claim 4 wherein the SM22 α promoter is a DNA sequence corresponding to nucleotides 1 to 1343 of SEQ ID No. 1.

18. (new) The transgene according to claim 3 wherein the transgene is a

DNA sequence corresponding to nucleotides 1 to 2655 of SEQ ID No. 1.

19. (new) The transgene according to claim 3 wherein the transgene is a DNA sequence corresponding to nucleotides 1 to 2691 of SEQ ID No. 12.